

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-19 are pending in this application. Claims 16-18 are amended by the present amendment. As amended Claims 16-18 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Kim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,499, hereinafter Kim) in view of Kageyama (U.S. Patent No. 6,594,442).

The outstanding rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 16 recites in part, “said sub-picture stream is configured to include bitmap data.”

In contrast, Kim describes a method for creating and managing navigation information in a recording medium. Kim does not describe that any of the described items recorded on the medium include bitmap data. The outstanding Office Action apparently cites the description of a text stream (such as IT_TXT managed by TXT_DT_MG)² in Kim as “a sub-picture stream.” However, the text stream of Kim includes, for example, ASCII codes, not bitmap data. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Kim does not teach “said sub-picture stream is configured to include bitmap data,” as recited in Claim 16. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Kageyama does not teach or suggest this element either, and the outstanding Office Action has not cited any portion of Kageyama as describing “a sub-picture stream.” Thus, as neither reference teaches or suggests “a sub-picture stream” as recited in Claim 16, Claim 16 (and Claim 19 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Kim in view of Kageyama.

¹See, e.g. the specification at page 81, line 25 to page 82, line 4 and Figures 31-34.

²See Kim, Figure 1.

Independent Claims 17 and 18 recite similar elements to Claim 16. Consequently, Claims 17 and 18 are believed to be patentable over Kim and Kageyama for at least the reasons described above with respect to Claim 16.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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